

The thinning that is done along the highways and around the towns is what has made it possible for the firefighters in a very difficult situation—on the just seen Dixie fire, on my map there—to have a chance to stop this fire finally. It has ravaged so much, and they have done an amazing job of protecting communities and homes in those areas.

But it has turned from a fire where a tree hit a power line—we are still waiting for the forensic report on that—from a small, half-acre fire and just a couple weeks later 200,000 acres and all this endangerment.

So work that had been done previously by Collins Pine is going to probably save the day for the town of Chester and others up in that direction.

So if we dramatically increase the fuel treatments across all these landscapes, then it gives us a fighting chance. We need to thin the forest and return low-intensity fire to these landscapes in the form also of a prescribed fire at a time of year when we can control them. The Native Americans used to use this method, and we can learn from them.

This map of fuels treatment projects around the Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, overlaid with the satellite image of the 2018 Carr fire burn scar, shows that where the fuels were managed the fire was less intense. The green area has been highlighted to show a better contrast. The areas that had been thinned did not burn nearly as intensely. Instead, the big trees survived, the fire goes through the area at the bottom of the forest much more slowly, and it is much more manageable. The upper areas are the ones that burned to a crisp.

So this map shows that forest management works and that thinning works. We need to increase the pace and scale of this type of project so when fires come, the landscape is ready, and it doesn't endanger our firefighters and our communities unnecessarily.

Fire will happen. It is going to happen whether it is a manmade accident or nature with lightning strikes and the things that happen there. It is going to happen.

But what are we going to do to address that?

If we want to talk about change of temperatures and the drought situation we are facing in the West, we have to do even more to address overgrown forests and the amount of inventory per acre a forest can handle. Basically, all these trees in an overloaded forest are called ladder fuels. The fires will be lower intensity if we do the right work. They are easier to put out and much less devastating. Indeed, it is the natural landscape we used to have over 100 years ago when fire was actually constructive.

## TWENTY YEARS OF THE CLINTON FOUNDATION HEADQUARTERS IN HARLEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20-year anniversary of the Clinton Foundation opening its headquarters in Harlem, USA. For the past two decades, the Clinton Foundation has been at the heart of the Harlem community, empowering local businesses and working to improve the neighborhood. This is, as you know, Mr. Speaker, an iconic neighborhood in the United States, and it is the center of the African diaspora in the United States, if not the world.

Throughout their time in Harlem, the Clinton Foundation has helped facilitate the microfinancing of 136,000 low-income women entrepreneurs. It has created sustainable models to help foster entrepreneurship, and it has undertaken critical projects to address inequalities in this community.

From 2002 to 2013, the foundation operated the Clinton Economic Opportunity Initiative, offering technical and managerial support to local entrepreneurs. However, the work did not stop at the boundaries of Harlem. In fact, in 2013, the foundation expanded their mission of unlocking opportunity and addressing inequality across our country and the world.

Due to the extraordinary work of the foundation, 430 million people in more than 180 countries have benefited from the Clinton Global Initiative. Twenty-one million people now have access to lifesaving HIV/AIDS medications, 1.2 million children's books have been distributed to under-resourced communities across the world, and 71 megawatts of clean energy projects have been facilitated in small island nations.

In the face of the pandemic, the Clinton Global Initiative also launched Action Network which brings together leaders from business, government, and philanthropic sectors to take action and address inequalities facing historically excluded groups.

Now, as we look to the challenges of the next 20 years, we know that the Clinton Foundation will continue to sharpen their focus on partnership building, expanding upon new horizons, and empowering more and more communities.

I want to commend the Clinton Foundation on their prodigious work of the past 20 years and their strong presence in the village of Harlem and thank former President Clinton and former Secretary Clinton for their continued dedication to furthering humanity and prioritizing historically excluded and underserved communities.

## FREE CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to talk to you about why it is important to me and why it should be important to the American people that we support those in Cuba who are fighting right now for their future, for their freedom, for democracy, for human rights, and for dignity.

I am the daughter of a Cuban refugee. My mother came to this great country in 1959 to escape the oppression of the Castro regime. Sadly, my family had been split apart, and my grandfather had remained in Cuba to stay with his small businesses. He had two gas stations there, and the regime had come in and taken his businesses and his home. Unfortunately, my family never really reconnected.

As we look at what is happening right now in this island that is just 90 miles from our shore, it is incredibly important to note the role that Cuba has played in spreading communism and socialism throughout the Western Hemisphere. They have aligned themselves with the most dangerous nations—our adversaries—across the world from Iran to China to Venezuela to Russia and to North Korea. Mr. Speaker, you see them all right now at this moment propping up this Communist regime.

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We, the leader of the free world, must stand with the Cuban people at this moment. We have a moment in history that is very similar to what Ronald Reagan faced in 1987 with the Iron Curtain. This is our Berlin Wall moment. The people in Cuba, my family included, have suffered for six decades under a brutal murderous regime.

Tens of thousands of people have died at the hands of the Castro brothers. Many, many more have been jailed and beaten simply for peacefully protesting communism and wanting to live in freedom.

This regime has also played a very important role, unfortunately, in spreading communism in the Western Hemisphere, as I mentioned. We saw Venezuela, one of the richest nations in South America, be destroyed by Hugo Chavez, Nicolas Maduro, propped up by the Castro regime. We see it going into Nicaragua, Bolivia, and even here in the United States of America.

And I can tell you, firsthand, in New York City, how painful it was to me to see the communist symbol, the hammer and sickle, painted on our government buildings last summer. If we end communism in Cuba, we end its spread in the Western Hemisphere. And that is what we as the American people, freedom-loving Americans, should be doing at this moment in time.

And there is a reason why the Cuban people are marching in the streets right now holding the American flag. It is because we are that symbol of freedom, that beacon of hope and opportunity, and we must rise to the occasion, garner support from our allies,